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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	<b>&lt; ENDANGERED &gt;</b>	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: Fishing Cat

The **Fishing Cat**, *Prionailurus viverrinus*, is listed as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Contradicting the belief that cats dislike water, the Fishing Cat is strongly associated with wetland habitat and frequently enters water to prey upon fish. This cat has been extirpated from much of its former range across South and Southeast Asia, and is now rarely encountered.

The main threat to the Fishing Cat is the destruction and degradation of its wetland habitat due to urban encroachment, drainage for agriculture, pollution and logging. Although not usually perceived as a commercially valuable species, it is vulnerable to snares set for other mammals and its fur may be traded in some Asian markets. This species may also be hunted for food, or in retribution for taking livestock or fish from nets.

With 94 percent of globally significant wetlands in Southeast Asia considered to be under threat, the main conservation priority for the Fishing Cat is to increase the protection afforded to its remaining wetland habitat.

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